

SONS OF THE PROPHETS

When one of the **sons of the prophets** told his neighbor that God commanded him to smite him, the neighbor refused. Even though God was the one who commanded it, the neighbor wouldn't do it. (Because of this disobedience, God sent a lion to kill him.)

- **1 Kings 20:35-36:** "And a certain man of the sons of the prophets said unto his neighbour in the word of the LORD, Smite me, I pray thee. And the man refused to smite him. Then said he unto him, Because thou hast not obeyed the voice of the Lord, behold, as soon as thou art departed from me, a lion shall slay thee. And as soon as he was departed from him, a lion found him, and slew him."

When the **sons of the prophets** who were at Bethel told Elisha that today was the day God was going to take Elijah, Elisha told them that he already knew.

- **2 Kings 2:3:** "And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace."

On the day when God was going to take Elijah up to heaven, the **sons of the prophets** who were at Bethel knew about it in advance. It didn't catch them by surprise.

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thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace."

When the **sons of the prophets** who were at Jericho told Elisha that today was the day God was going to take Elijah, Elisha told them that he already knew.

- **2 Kings 2:5:** "And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace."

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When the day came when God was going to take Elijah up to heaven, and Elijah went to cross the Jordan river, fifty of the **sons of the prophets** followed and watched from afar off.

- **2 Kings 2:6-7:** "And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the Lord hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on. And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they

two stood by Jordan."

When Elijah parted the Jordan river, fifty of the **sons of the prophets** from Jericho witnessed it (since they were watching from afar off).

- **2 Kings 2:7-8:** "And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan. And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground."

After Elisha parted the Jordan river, the **sons of the prophets** said that the spirit of Elijah rested upon Elisha.

- **2 Kings 2:15:** "And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him."

When the **sons of the prophets** at Jericho asked Elisha for permission to go look for Elijah, he refused. He told them not to send people to look for him. (It seems they didn't realize God had taken Elijah up to Heaven, and instead thought he had been transported to a different place in the area.)

- **2 Kings 2:16:** "And they said unto him, Behold now, there be with thy servants fifty strong men; let them go, we pray thee, and seek thy master: lest peradventure the Spirit of the LORD hath taken him up, and cast him upon some mountain, or into some valley. And he said, Ye shall not send."

When the **sons of the prophets** from Jericho asked Elisha for permission to go look for Elijah, they continued to pester him until he relented and allowed them to go. (However, they didn't find him.)

- **2 Kings 2:17:** "And when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, Send. They sent therefore fifty men; and they sought three days, but found him not."

The widow who went to Elisha, who was deep in debt, had been one of the wives of the **sons of the prophets**.

- **2 Kings 4:1:** "Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen."

When Elisha went to Gilgal, he told his servant to seethe pottage in a large pot for the **sons of the prophets**. (In other words, he wanted his servant to prepare a meal for them during this time of famine.)

- **2 Kings 4:38:** "And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and there was a dearth in the land; and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him: and he said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets."

When Elisha told his servant to prepare a meal for the **sons of the prophets**, someone shred some wild gourds that they had found and put them into the pot of pottage (which poisoned

it).

- **2 Kings 4:38-39:** "And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and there was a dearth in the land; and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him: and he said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets. And one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full, and came and shred them into the pot of pottage: for they knew them not."

When the pot of pottage was poisoned, the **sons of the prophets** didn't actually ask Elisha to do anything. Instead they told him the pottage was poisonous.

- **2 Kings 4:40:** "So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O thou man of God, there is death in the pot. And they could not eat thereof."

There is a recurring theme that the **sons of the prophets** referred to Elisha as the man of God.

- **2 Kings 4:40:** "So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O thou man of God, there is death in the pot. And they could not eat thereof."

After Elisha cast meal into the pot of pottage, he told the **sons of the prophets** that the pottage was safe to eat.

- **2 Kings 4:41:** "But he said, Then bring meal. And he cast it into the pot; and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot."

Gehazi told Naaman that two young men of the **sons of the prophets** had come to see Elisha. (This was a lie. Gehazi was just trying to steal a large amount of money from Naaman.)

- **2 Kings 5:20-22:** "But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, Behold, my master hath spared Naaman this Syrian, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought: but, as the Lord liveth, I will run after him, and take somewhat of him. So Gehazi followed after Naaman. And when Naaman saw him running after him, he lighted down from the chariot to meet him, and said, Is all well? And he said, All is well. My master hath sent me, saying, Behold, even now there be come to me from mount Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets: give them, I pray thee, a talent of silver, and two changes of garments."

It seems that the **sons of the prophets** viewed Elisha as their leader. Before they moved to a place by the Jordan river they obtained his permission (and asked him to go with them).

- **2 Kings 6:1-3:** "And the **sons of the prophets** said unto Elisha, Behold now, the place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us. Let us go, we pray thee, unto Jordan, and take thence every man a beam, and let us make us a place there, where we may dwell. And he answered, Go ye. And one said, Be content, I pray thee, and go with thy servants. And he answered, I will go."

When the axe head that one of the **sons of the prophets** was using fell into the water, he cried out. However, it seems he didn't actually ask Elisha to anything about it.

- **2 Kings 6:5:** "But as one was felling a beam, the axe head fell into the water: and he cried, and said, Alas, master! for it was borrowed."

When the axe head that one of the **sons of the prophets** was using fell into the water, Elisha cut down a stick and cast it into the water. The iron axe head floated, allowing it to be easily retrieved.

- **2 Kings 6:6:** "And the man of God said, Where fell it? And he shewed him the place. And he cut down a stick, and cast it in thither; and the iron did swim."

Elisha told one of the **sons of the prophets** to go to Ramothgilead and anoint Jehu as king (and then immediately flee).

- **2 Kings 9:1-3:** "And Elisha the prophet called one of the children of the prophets, and said unto him, Gird up thy loins, and take this box of oil in thine hand, and go to Ramothgilead: And when thou comest thither, look out there Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his brethren, and carry him to an inner chamber; Then take the box of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, Thus saith the Lord, I have anointed thee king over Israel. Then open the door, and flee, and tarry not."